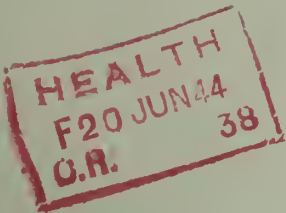


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BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Ccl Officer
Dunham*

R E P O R T
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
for the year
1943.

.....

J.G. PALEY M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,

Assistant School Medical Officer.

12th June, 1944.

Council Offices,
"Woodleigh",
BARNARD CASTLE.
12th June, 1944.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1943.

In spite of the continued conditions of overcrowding which, I regret to say, owing to the war and the shortage of housing accommodation, cannot at present be dealt with, there has been no appreciable increase in the incidence of infectious diseases.

With reference to the water supply, I am pleased to be able to report that the springs and borehole yielded a good and plentiful supply of water throughout the year. The rainfall during the Summer months was heavy, and this replenished the springs and afforded a constant supply.

I am again indebted to the members of the Council, and to the Officials, for their co-operation and support in matters relating to my department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. PALEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics Registrar General's Figures for 1943.

Comparative Table of Birth Rates.

<u>This Area</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>England & Wales Birth Rate</u>
Boys 39	14.8	16.5
Girls 23	per thousand. .1	per thousand.
<u>This Area</u>	<u>Still Births Still Birth Rate</u>	<u>England & Wales Still Birth Rate</u>
Boys 2	0.7	0.51
Girls 1	per thousand.	per thousand.

Comparative Table of Death Rates.

<u>This Area</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year 1.	not given.
Infant Mortality Rate 16.	Infant Mortality Rate 49.

Number of Deaths.

<u>This Area</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Males 40	
Females 28	not given
Death Rate 16.3 per thousand	Death Rate 12.1 per thousand.

Causes of Death.

Heart Disease	23	Other forms of	1
Bronchitis	2	tuberculosis	
Pneumonia	4	Syphilitic diseases	1
Cancer (allsites)	9	Influenza	1
Intracranial vascular	12	Nephritis	2
lesions		Puerperal Sepsis	1
Tuberculosis of	3	Other violent causes	1
Respiratory System		All other causes	8

Total 68.

The crude birth-rate shows an increase of 0.4 per thousand, compared with the figure for 1942.
The crude death-rate shows an increase of 3.7 per thousand, compared with the figure for 1942.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943.</u>
Measles	84	7	78
Whooping Cough	36	3	4
Scarlet Fever	9	19	21
Diphtheria	3	2	2
Pneumonia	9	7	4
Erysipelas	1	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	3	2
Enteric Fever	0	1	0

Notification of Infectious Diseases (contd).

The increase in the number of cases of measles during the year, was seasonal and coincided with a general increase throughout the country.

No cases of diphtheria occurred in children under 15, during the year.

Tuberculosis. New cases during 1943.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Non -Pulmonary.</u>	0	1

6 new cases were registered during the year. 2 cases were non-civilian patients notified from the E.M.S. Hospital, Barnard Castle.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	<u>Age under 5 years.</u>	<u>Age 5-15 years.</u>
Number of children who received a full course of immunisation during the year	85.	25.
Estimated percentage of child population considered immunised at 31st Dec. 1943	67%	67%

In April, arrangements were made for providing facilities for immunisation at the Infant Welfare Clinic, held at fortnightly intervals in the Vicarage, Barnard Castle.

The Medical Officer of Health attends for this purpose from 9.30 a.m. until 10.0 a.m. The response has been quite satisfactory and parents are beginning to appreciate the value of early immunisation for children of the age of one year and upwards.

Parents can still have their children immunised free of charge, at their doctor's surgery.

Treatment of Scabies (Scabies Order, 1941).

During the year a total of 151 treatments were given at the A.R.P. Cleansing Station, Dunelm Square.

In most cases two treatments were sufficient for each patient to eradicate the infection. In a few cases it was necessary to give further treatment.

The number of patients resident in the Urban District who were treated, amounted to 35.

The number of separate families involved was 13.

Government Evacuation Scheme.

	<u>Mothers and accompanied children.</u>	<u>Unaccompanied children.</u>	<u>Nurses, Helpers & Teachers.</u>
Number of Evacuees in the area at 31st Dec. 1942.	28	35	21
Number of Evacuees in the area at 31st Dec. 1943.	36	16	18
Decrease or increase for year	plus 8	minus 19	minus 3

Water Supply.

All dwelling houses in the area of supply, with the exception of 3 houses, are supplied with piped supply direct to the house.

The quality of the water as shewn by analysis, was satisfactory.

Following is a note by the Sanitary Inspector, summarising the work carried out by his department, under the Public Health Acts, during the year.

	Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses and Schools	36	-	30
-Structural Defects.			
Dairies and Milkshops	-	-	-
Cowsheds	-	-	-
Slaughter-houses	1	-	1
Ashpits and Privies	-	-	-
Deposits of Refuse & Manure	6	-	6
Water-closets	5	-	5
Defective Yard Paving	-	-	-
House Drainage :-			
(Defective Traps)	2	-	2
(No disconnection			
from Sewers)	1	-	1
(Other faults)	41	-	41
Water Supply	6	3	9
Pail Closets	2	-	2
Defective Insanitary Ashbins	-	26	26
Other Nuisances	11	-	11
	<hr/> 111	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 134

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE. - 24 houses disinfected after infectious disease.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

Throughout the year, conditions remained quiet in the area, and no incidents were recorded.

In July, a combined military and civil exercise was carried out in the town, and all branches of the Civil Defence Services took part.

In September, owing to the death of Mrs J.G.Ward, a vacancy occurred on the staff of the Mobile Unit, stationed in Barnard Castle. Miss M.L.Prest, of the Barnard Castle and Startforth District Nursing Association, was appointed Senior nurse-in-charge.

During the year, amalgamation of the First Aid and Rescue parties

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS (contd).

took place, the combined services coming under the supervision of the County Surveyor's Department.

The Mobile Unit and Ambulance Services remain under the supervision of the County Health Department.

SCHOOL CLINIC & INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

Weekly sessions of the School Clinic, and fortnightly sessions of the Infant Welfare Clinic continue to be held in Barnard Castle, under the County Council Scheme.

Attendances of school children at the school clinic were moderate.

